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Urban District of Kenilworth

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1969

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

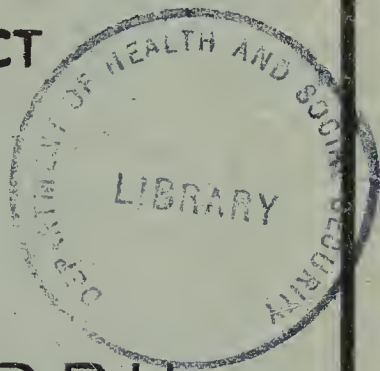
OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1970



1 EUSTON SQUARE,
LEAMINGTON SPA,
24th June, 1970.

To the Kenilworth Urban District Council

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report upon the health of your district during 1969.

This year the population rose by only 220 persons and there was the small figure of 96 for the natural increase. Although the death rate was very low in comparison with that for the whole country, this was offset by a live birth rate well below those recorded in the most recent decade. Infant mortality was also below the rate for England and Wales. The notification figures for infectious diseases were at modest levels although some increase in both dysentery and food poisoning occurred. This is a likely trend with social habits tending more to communal feeding outside the home and the growing popularity of foreign travel. An epidemic due to A-type influenza virus broke out suddenly just after Christmas and spread rapidly but it came too late to affect the 1969 morbidity statistics for influenza and pneumonia.

Mr. Wright has reported elsewhere that the public cleansing service was able to keep up weekly collections for most of the past year. Some public support was shown in your hiring offer of a guarded holder and supplies of paper sacks for an annual 7/6d. hiring charge. Some concern arises at the rate at which your tipping space is being used. There was less fly nuisance in spite of a hot, dry summer and also less standing water to require pumping to higher levels. In the field of housing, preparations were made for the declaration of clearance areas in Albion Street to be followed by a compulsory purchase order. The new improvement grant conditions revived public interest and many enquiries were received.

There was yet another increase in the number of animals slaughtered in the town and, if this trend continues, it is clear that some improvement work must be undertaken if proper standards of hygiene are to be kept up.

Analysis of water from the borehole sources in the town revealed that both yield water naturally deficient in the mineral fluorides essential for formation of healthy tooth structure.

It was a privilege to be invited during April 1969 to the opening ceremony of the new Campion Hills Water Treatment Works at Leamington Spa from which in future a supply can be made available to augment that produced within the town's own boundaries.

The fine modern clinic opened by the County Council in Smalley Place, during the summer of 1968, came into increasing use during 1969 and provides excellent facilities for the medical dental and auxiliary services given there.

I thank the members of the Council for much kindness and for their interest in the work of the health department. Once again I have to acknowledge with thanks the help and advice which have again been given to me by Mr. Wright and his staff, by your Clerk, Surveyor and Treasurer and all other officials with whom my duties have brought me into contact.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Kenilworth Urban District

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1969.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	5,967 acres
No. of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	6,675
Product of a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£3,420
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£832,995
Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1969	...	...	...	...	...	21,000
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	(Crude)	...	...	...	...	15.0
	(Corrected)	...	...	...	...	14.6
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	...	—
Death Rate per 1,000 population	(Crude)	...	...	...	...	7.0
	(Corrected)	...	...	...	...	9.9
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—						
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	9.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	7.0
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	100.0
Perinatal Mortality (per 1,000 total births)	...	...	...	...	...	3.0

The population increased by 220 persons. Natural increase (*i.e.* excess of births over deaths) was 169 so that immigration accounted for little of the increase. The death rate was even lower than last year.

Statistics for England and Wales are shown at the foot of Table II.

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

1. Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health (part-time), Dr. F. D. M. Livingstone.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part time), Dr. M. V. Richards.

Surveyor, E. Prince, B.Sc., M.I.C.E.

Chief Public Health Inspector, C. H. Wright, M.A.P.H.I. M.R.S.H.

Senior Assistant Public Health Inspector, G. L. Horne, M.A.P.H.I. M.R.S.H.

Assistant Public Health Inspector, C. Rhodes, D.P.A., cert. S.I.J.B.

Clerks; Mrs. L. Allen, Miss D. Walker, *S. Buckley, *Miss B. Gibbons Ward. *(Member of L.H.A. Clerical Staff with part of time allocated to services of Joint Sanitary Committee, M.O.H.'s Office).

2. *Public Health Laboratories* at Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry (Medical Director Dr. J. E. M. Whitehead) examined samples submitted by the department and thanks are due to him for advice in regard to many investigations.

3. *L.H.A. Services.*—The County Council now holds child health centres at the clinic in Smalley Place on three afternoons each week. On two days national welfare foods are on sale. Nursing, midwifery and home help services are supervised from the Area Health Office in Leamington Spa. The local health authority operates a chiropody service, available to pensioners, expectant mothers and those registered as disabled persons. There are also family planning and equipment loan schemes.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

1. *Water Supply*.—The Manager of the South Warwickshire Water Board has reported that the public water supply was satisfactory and is chlorinated as required; 6,766 houses have a direct supply which serves 21,000 persons and only two houses have a supply by standpipe. Regular examinations are carried out at laboratories at Leamington Spa and Rugby. The water does not have a plumbo-solvent action. Ten satisfactory bacteriological tests were made from each borehole and from Coventry bulk supply. Further satisfactory tests were made from consumers' taps.

Raw water analysis results expressed in part per million (average).

From: South Warwickshire Water Board. Chief Chemist.

Description: (A) Mill End, Kenilworth; (B) Birmingham Road.

				<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>
pH value	...	...	...	7.2	7.3
Total Hardness (CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	293	303
Total Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	...	...	...	218	256
Chloride	...	...	...	24	23
Fluoride	...	...	...	0.12	0.11
Iron	...	...	...	0.02	0.10
Manganese	...	...	...	0.01	0.01
Free Ammonia (N)	...	...	...	0.07	0.06
Nitrate (NO ₃)	...	...	...	32.8	17.3
Calcium Hardness	...	...	...	272	263
Potassium (K)	...	...	...	2.1	4.2
Free Chlorine (Cl.)	...	...	...	Nil	Nil
No. of samples examined	...	...	...	8	8

Water Sampling—Town Water Supply

16 samples of water taken from various premises in the town were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

All the samples were reported as satisfactory.

Water Supplies—Other Sources.

Two samples of water from a supply which was being used for domestic purposes were taken from a well adjoining a dwelling house. Upon examination the supply was found to be grossly contaminated. The occupants of the house were advised to boil all water before use, but as a mains water supply was available it was suggested that a storage tank be placed

in the house to store mains water when the supply was more readily available. The mains supply to the house was insufficient at times because of other demands made upon it and it was felt that a storage tank would provide a supply of water when required.

These proposals are being considered by the owners and the use of water from the contaminated well has now been discontinued. It is interesting to record that this contaminated water supply came to light because of two cases of food poisoning which had been reported to the Department by a local Doctor.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

2.(a). *Sewage Disposal Works*.—The matter of sewage flow and water consumption was the subject of a meeting in Kenilworth on 13th January, 1969, between representatives of the Kenilworth Urban District Council, the Council's Consulting Engineers, the Severn River Authority and the South Warwickshire Water Board. The following items were reported:—

Measurement of sewage flow at the Kenilworth Sewage Disposal Works indicated a volume of 17 gallons per head per day of population, whilst water consumption was approximately double this figure.

The maximum dry weather flow during the winter period to the Sewage Disposal Works gave a margin of 25,000 gallons per day which enabled further limited housing development within the Urban District. Following the results of the technical observations it was apparent that for the time being the Sewage Disposal Works were adequate for the present needs where the working population was mainly out of town during the day.

2 (b). *Sewerage*.—The contract for the laying of a surface water sewer serving the new development area and road works at Abbey End was completed and brought into use on 14th June, 1969.

During the year instructions were given to the Consulting Engineers for preparation work to commence in regard to a Relief Sewer from the vicinity of the Engine Inn at Mill End to the Sewage Disposal Works.

A replacement foul sewer to serve properties in Moseley Road was included in the Capital Works programme.

3. *Rivers and Streams*.—The maintenance of culverts and Finham Brook was carried out within the district.

4. *Open Air Bathing Pool.*—The Pool was open to the public on 24th May, 1969, and closed on 2nd September, 1969. Attendance figures were as follows:—

				<i>For Comparison</i>		
				1969	1968	1967
Adults	...	...	...	7,074	4,075	5,939
Children	...	...	...	24,586	17,373	24,464
Spectators	...	...	...	7,072	5,036	6,988
Sunday visitors	...	...	...	6,414	3,181	4,237

11 samples of swimming bath water were submitted to Dr. Whitehead for bacteriological analysis and he reported that all were satisfactory bar one taken during a peak period of use.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Chief Public Health Inspector is the Officer responsible to the Council for the operation of this service which is dealt with in his section of this joint report.

D. HOUSING

Improvements to Houses.—Eighteen improvement grant applications were approved during 1969, comprising 16 standard and 2 discretionary grants.

The standard grants approved were for the provision of:—

Bath, wash-hand basin, hot water supply, W.C. and foodstore	...	...	...	1
Bath, wash-hand basin, hot water supply and W.C.	...	...	...	5
Bath, wash-hand basin, hot water supply	...			2
Wash-hand basin, and hot water supply	...			4
Hot water supply and W.C.	...	...	...	1
Hot water supply	...	...	...	3
				—
				16
				—

Progress made in the improvement of houses this year was somewhat slower than of recent years and this could be attributed to the coming into operation of the Housing Act, 1969 in August.

It is thought that owners who were contemplating improvements during the early part of the year, because of the increased grants which were promised in the new Act, decided to postpone the works of modernisation until after the Act came into force.

Now that the Act has been in operation for a few months more landlords and owner/occupiers are beginning to take advantage of the increased grants which are available from the Council.

It is hoped that many more owners will avail themselves of the improvement grants scheme in the future and so bring the older stock of houses in the town up to a sound state of repair; fully improved and modernised so that eventually every family in the town will have the benefits of inside sanitation, a bathroom and a sufficient supply of running hot water. During the past few years steady progress has been made and it is hoped that this work will continue.

Clearance Areas.—At the beginning of the year inspections of houses Nos. 77-127, Albion Street were completed and the Council declared the Kenilworth (Albion Street East) Clearance Areas Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 7. The scheme which comprises 22 unfit houses, 3 fit houses and 3 houses/shops form an area which the Council propose to purchase compulsorily for re-development purposes.

Individual Unfit Houses.—Eight houses were represented as being unfit for human habitation. Four were dealt with by way of Closing Orders, three by Demolition Orders and in the case of the remaining house, the owner gave an undertaking to the Council not to re-let the property until the necessary works to bring it up to a proper standard of fitness had been carried out.

	<i>For Comparison</i>		
<i>Housing:—</i>	1969	1968	1967
Number of Houses built by:			
(a) Local Authority ...	3	44	—
(b) Private Enterprise ...	41	97	99
Total number of Pre-fab houses owned by the Council ...	50	50	50
Total number of completed houses owned by the Council	917*	914	870
Houses converted into flats ...	0	2	2
*includes 26 houses and 18 flats.			

<i>New Buildings.</i>	1969
Change of use	21
Alterations and Additions (Windows, Verandah, Porches, Cloaks) ...	20
Garages	42
Houses, Bungalows and Flats ...	65
Extensions	62
Car Port	8
Covered Way	2
Shop front	8
Offices	2
Conversion to bedrooms	2
Laundrette	1
Car Park (extensions)	1
Temporary Building	2
Petrol pumps and tanks	3
Fence	4
Modernization of Council Houses ...	42
Trees (lopping and removal) ...	14
Store room	4
Conservatory	6
Roads and sewers	2
Radio mast	1
Forecourt Canopy	2
Re-facing of elevation	2
Nursing Home (change of use) ...	2
Student Accommodation (change of use)	1
Sports Pavilion	1
Sun-lounge	3
Kiosk	1
Fire escape	1
Classroom	1
Bedroom Block	32
Playgroup (use of premises) ...	3
Overhead line	1
Footpath crossing	2
Lofting Hoist	1

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food and Food Premises and Vehicles.—Inspections of food premises and vehicles continued throughout the year, but progress was even further curtailed because of the heavy demands made on all inspectors of the department by meat inspection duties.

In a few cases it was necessary to bring to the notice of owners various contraventions of the Regulations. Owners co-operated well and usually the required works were carried out within a reasonable time and there was no case in which a report had to be made to you for consideration for legal proceedings. It was pleasing to note the liaison which took place between owners of new food businesses and the Department during the year. Help and advice was readily given by your Inspectors and this was often sought by owners who wanted guidance in order to comply with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Clean Food leaflets listing hints for food handlers and leaflets summarizing the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were distributed to various food establishments in the town. These should prove helpful to owners of all types of food businesses and food handlers in every type of food trade.

Ice-Cream.—47 premises are registered in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Preserved Food.—5 premises are registered in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 for the preservation of food.

Meat Inspection—

Number of licensed Slaughterhouses ...	...	2
Number of visits made ...	...	1,357

Every animal slaughtered at the two slaughterhouses was inspected. The total number of animals was 27,680.

The table below gives an indication of the increase in Meat Inspection over the past eight years.

			<i>Number of food animals inspected</i>
<i>Year</i>			
1962	...	...	11,643
1963	...	...	14,833
1964	...	...	16,468
1965	...	...	16,137
1966	...	...	18,030
1967	...	...	21,760
1968	...	...	26,337
1969	...	...	27,680

There was again an increase in the number of food animals slaughtered and inspected at the two private slaughterhouses in the town. This very high number of animals which require

full ante and post-mortem inspections took up even more of your Inspectors' time. Because of a ruling by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in July the largest private slaughterhouse in the town is now legally entitled to slaughter every Saturday morning throughout the year between the hours of 6.45 a.m. and 12 noon. This has placed an additional burden on your Public Health Inspectors and also on the Department and there is now a definite need for the appointment of a full-time Authorised Meat Inspector or an Assistant Public Health Inspector to cope with the increased work and also to prevent other Environmental Health duties from falling further behind.

The total weight of meat condemned was 15,007 lbs.

Five bovine carcasses were found to contain viable cysts of *cysticercus bovis* and these were submitted to treatment by refrigeration. The carcass and all organs of a pig affected with *cysticercus cellulosae* was rejected as being unfit for human consumption. 37 whole carcasses—1 bullock, 2 cows, 8 calves, 10 sheep and 16 pigs were rejected as being unfit for human consumption during the year.

The normal charge for inspection services was levied and this yielded a total of £1,105 4s. 6d. for the year as compared with £1,069 7s. 6d. for 1968 and £848 17s. 6d. for 1967.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958.—There were three new applications for licences to slaughter or stun animals and thirteen renewals.

Unsound Food.—Summary of food found at various inspections to be unfit for human consumption:—

- 400 lbs. Ox Tails
- 300 lbs. Canterbury Lamb
- 230 lbs. Hips of Beef
- 200 lbs. Boneless Beef
- 102 lbs. Pigs Liver
- 66 lbs. Leg of Pork
- 41 lbs. Shoulder Pork
- 61 lbs. Loin Pork
- 35 lbs. Loin Lamb
- 14 lbs. English Leg Lamb
- 31 lbs. Frozen Lamb
- 27 lbs. Sirloin Beef

84 lbs. Stewing Steak
 24 lbs. Top Side Beef
 33 lbs. Beef Bits
 33 lbs. Top Rump
 25 lbs. Chuck Beef
 35 lbs. Fillet of Beef
 56 lbs. Beef Dripping
 10 lbs. Pigs Head
 23 lbs. Bacon
 85 lbs. Kidneys
 9 lbs. Thick Flank
 5 lbs. Breast Lamb
 4 lbs. Lambs Liver
 2 lbs. Belly Pork
 2 lbs. Pork Hocks
 229 lbs. Tinned Fruit
 170 lbs. Tinned Meat
 157 lbs. Tinned Vegetables
 20 lbs. Tinned Fish
 10 lbs. Tinned Fruit Juice
 56 lbs. Tinned Mincemeat
 40 lbs. Tinned Frozen Lambs Liver
 3 lbs. Tinned Creamed Rice
 2 lbs. Tinned Cream
 6 lbs. Tinned Marmalade
 6 lbs. Tinned Jellied Veal
 7 lbs. Tinned Loin Pork
 7 lbs. Box Liquorice Comfits
 192 lbs. Cabbage
 174 Pkts. Frozen Mousse
 271 Pkts. Frozen Meat
 423 Pkts. Frozen Fish
 361 Pkts. Frozen Vegetables
 32 Pkts. Frozen Trifles
 49 Pkts. Frozen Chips
 69 Pkts. Frozen Pastry
 61 Pkts. Frozen Chicken Pies
 54 Pkts. Frozen Beef Pies
 8 Pkts. Frozen Scampi
 3 Pkts. Frozen Prawns
 3 Pkts. Frozen Kipper Fillets
 14 Pkts. Frozen Chicken Joints
 17 Tins Frozen Orange Juice.

These were disposed of at the Leamington Incinerator and
 Cherry Orchard Tip.

Bacteriological Food Sampling.—The following routine samples of milk were taken in Kenilworth by the County Health Department:—

Pasteurised Milk ... 67

Ultra Heat Treated Milk 3

Three samples of pasteurised milk were reported as having failed the Methylene blue test.

Routine bacteriological samples of milk were taken by your Public Health Inspectors as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk ... 19

One sample failed the methylene blue test.

Seventeen samples of ice-cream were submitted for examination and these were all reported as being satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. SECTION 31

The County Medical Officer kindly sends information annually about results of tests made by biological methods. No milk samples were collected by his sampling officers this year within your district.

MEAT INSPECTION.

YEAR 1969

The following table gives details of all animals slaughtered and of the conditions found on inspection:—

Appendix

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	2721	109	655	14432	9763	None
Number inspected ...	2721	109	655	14432	9763	None
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i> ... Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	8	10	16	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	290	23	2	574	436	None
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	10.69%	22.94%	1.57%	4.02%	4.63%	None
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i> Whole carcasses condemned	None	None	None	None	None	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	None	None	None	None	201	None
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	None	None	None	None	2.06%	None
<i>Cysticercosis :</i> Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	None	None	None	None	None
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	5	None	None	None	None	None
Generalised and totally condemned	None	None	None	None	1	None

Number of Animals Slaughtered and Inspected—27,680.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Major Infectious Disease since 1961

		Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Anterior Poliomyelitis
1962	...	—	—	6	1	—
1963	...	2	—	368	5	—
1964	...	1	2	109	1	—
1965	...	1	11	59	2	—
1966	...	1	—	507	—	—
1967	...	2	—	156	1	—
1968	...	3	1	106	—	—
1969	...	5	7	21	—	—

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1969.

Measles notifications numbered only 21 and it was not an epidemic year. This disease accounted for most of the notifications received.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1969

Age Periods	New cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

As will be seen from the table on previous page there was no new notification of Tuberculosis during 1969. In addition one known patient transferred to your register upon taking up residence within the district. One death occurred in 1969 and only 10 deaths were from this cause in the last 15 years.

Tuberculosis.—The following table shows the cases notified, and deaths for the past 20 years :—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Cases ...	3	3	13	15	15	13	15
Deaths ...	—	3	3	1	—	—	—
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Cases ...	5	6	12	7	5	7	4
Deaths ...	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	
Cases ...	4	—	2	6	1	—	
Deaths ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	

B.C.G. (Scholar's Scheme)

Under this scheme tests were made in county schools at age 13 of skin sensitivity to tuberculin. Negative reactors are given an intradermal injection of B.C.G. vaccine. The figures of work done in Kenilworth schools are given below.

<i>No. skin</i>		<i>Total given</i>
<i>tested</i>	<i>Positive</i>	<i>B.C.G. Vaccine</i>
385	32	343

Eleven children were X-rayed. Results clear.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No new reports were received in 1969 regarding old persons in need of proper care and attention. Close contacts exist between the local health and welfare officers, family doctors and hospital geriatric services.

Section 47 of the 1948 Act places a duty upon the Council in relation to persons who—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

No orders were sought under these powers during the year.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

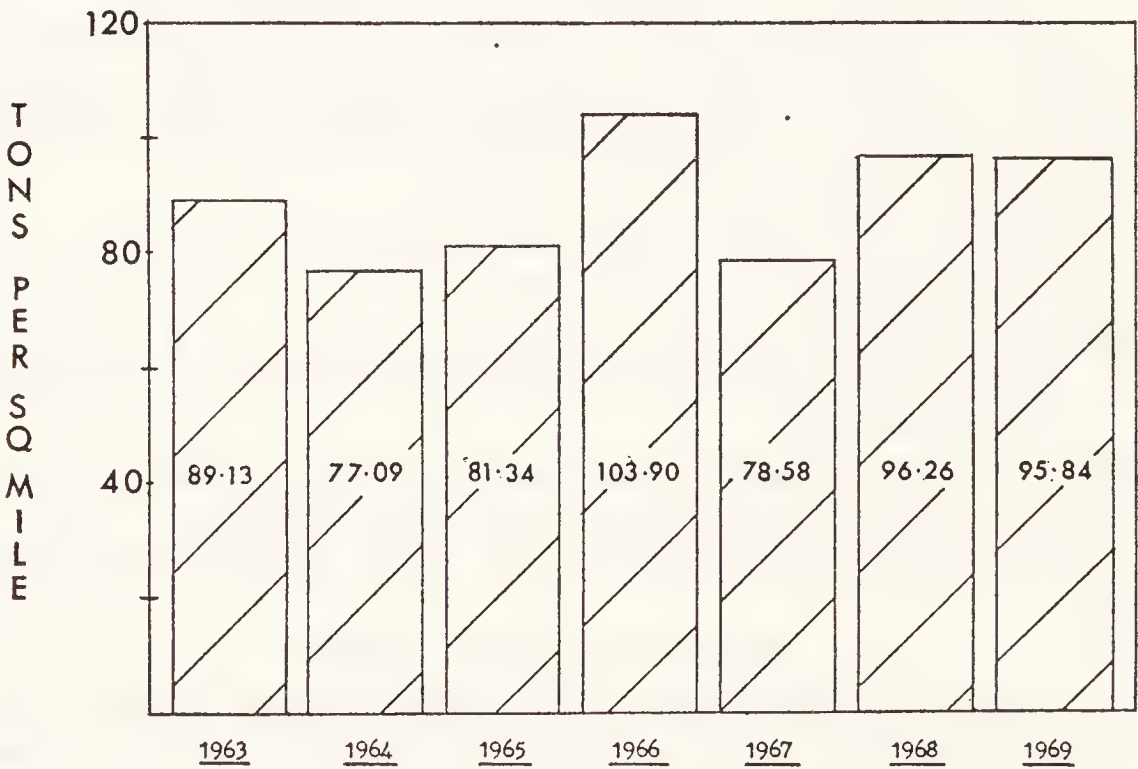
Atmospheric Pollution.—The smoke/sulphur dioxide volumetric apparatus was maintained throughout the year and

daily concentrations of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere were calculated. The information derived, together with weather remarks, i.e. wind strengths and directions, were submitted to the Warwickshire Clean Air Council and to the Warren Spring Laboratory, Stevenage for inclusion in their national survey.

Results obtained from the instruments are as follows:—

1969	<i>Deposit gauge Tons per sq. mile</i>	<i>Smoke m/gms. per cubic metre</i>	<i>Sulphur m/gms. per cubic metre</i>
January ...	5.47	74.0	37.0
February ...	7.45	99.0	36.0
March ...	9.84	88.0	35.0
April ...	12.82	46.0	24.0
May ...	13.16	37.0	21.0
June ...	8.46	23.0	29.0
July ...	6.31	21.0	29.0
August ...	12.86	24.0	27.0
September	4.30	77.0	34.0
October ...	3.32	47.0	33.0
November...	5.57	53.0	34.0
December ...	6.28	75.0	37.0

Comparisons between the results shown by the soot deposit gauge over the past seven years are shown on the diagram.



RAINFALL

				<i>For Comparison</i>		
			1969	1968	1967	
January	...	...	2.49	2.54	1.47	
February	...	...	1.90	1.46	2.51	
March	...	...	2.14	.78	1.97	
April	...	...	1.64	2.57	.96	
May	...	...	6.32	3.16	5.24	
June	...	...	1.94	2.84	1.15	
July	...	...	2.27	3.41	1.18	
August	...	...	4.62	2.59	2.39	
September	...	...	.65	4.27	3.34	
October	...	...	.14	1.92	4.76	
November	...	...	2.54	2.12	1.62	
December	...	...	2.35	1.97	2.51	
<i>Totals:</i>			29.00	29.63	29.10	

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of

The Kenilworth Urban District Council.

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Fourth Annual Report as your Chief Public Health Inspector. It is for the year ending 31st December, 1969.

The year was again a busy one for the Department and every effort was made to keep pace with the continuing increase in Environmental Health work. Unfortunately, it was not possible to carry out as many inspections of food premises and offices and shops, etc., as last year, but I feel sure that now the Council have appointed an Authorised Meat Inspector in the Department to look after the inspection work at the Slaughterhouses, other important matters will be able to be attended to more frequently by your Public Health Inspectors.

A weekly collection of refuse from all premises in the town was given during the year in spite of the fact that the number of dustbins rose to an all time high level of 10,083. There were some slight delays following public holidays, but the efforts of your refuse collectors soon brought the service back to normal. The men are to be congratulated on their sustained efforts, in spite of problems which arose from time to time.

It was particularly pleasing when the Council gave approval to the commencement of a partial paper sack scheme (on a hiring basis) at the beginning of April. Already, over

300 units are in use and I sincerely hope that more members of the public will avail themselves of this excellent, noiseless and hygienic system at the extremely low cost of 7/6d. per year.

Refuse disposal continued quite satisfactorily throughout the year, and improved conditions on the tip were obtained.

The tip continues to fill up quite rapidly and this is more noticeable because of the large amount of covering material which we are having to use to prevent nuisance arising. In the long term there is still 8 or 9 years tipping space available but the worrying problem is that we are moving faster than the clay winning operation of the brick company. A careful watch will have to be kept on the situation during the next two years.

The containers provided for the disposal of rubbish by householders were in great demand, so much so that either more containers or a deep sided trailer will need to be provided if the amount of rubbish continues to increase. Again, garden refuse seemed to form a very high percentage of refuse disposed of.

Steady progress in dealing with dwellinghouses which are unfit for human habitation continues to be made and in addition to 8 individual houses dealt with, inspections of 25 houses and 3 houses/shops were completed in Albion Street. The Council declared the area to be a Clearance Area and it is hoped to compulsorily acquire the site for housing re-development.

Applications for improvement grants fell during the year, but this could be attributed to the coming into operation of the new Housing Act, 1969 in August. Since the new Act came in, the Department has been kept busy with proposed improvement schemes. The largest amount of time has been spent in explaining the provisions of the Act to members of the public who sought advice concerning improvement grants. Many enquiries have been made so far on all other aspects, including rents and, since the Government's publicity campaign, the enquiries have been extremely heavy.

Meat Inspection work at the two private Slaughterhouses increased again and 27,680 food animals were slaughtered and inspected. The standard of hygiene in the slaughterhouses is quite satisfactory and the owners have given the Department's Inspectors full co-operation during the year. Although 15,007 lbs. of meat and offal was condemned, the quality of the meat produced is good. The condemnation of "casualty"

animals which have got to be accepted by the owner for slaughter form a high proportion of the weight of meat rejected. The remainder is made up of "localised" conditions which only necessitate the rejection of the part or organ affected with a particular disease or condition.

It is interesting to note the high amount of unfit food which was inspected by the Department. A large proportion of this resulted from breakdowns of refrigerators at various shops and Supermarkets in the town.

The number of inspections to Offices and Shops were unfortunately lower this year because of other more pressing duties, but now that your Inspectors can be released from Meat Inspection duties this branch of the work will receive urgent attention. Those premises which were inspected were found to be up to a reasonably good standard and apart from drawing the attention of owners to minor contraventions of the Act, the standards were satisfactory.

Two accidents were reported and investigated, but in both cases there was no negligence observed on the part of the employers.

Some progress was made with inspections of food premises and food delivery vehicles and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory. Advice was given to owners and leaflets setting out "food hygiene hints" were made available to food handlers and those engaged in food businesses.

Routine bacteriological sampling of milk, ice-cream, water and swimming bath water continued during the year and in the main, satisfactory results were obtained.

The Pest Destruction Service was again well used by the public, by farmers and by other business people. Rodent control took up a lot of the time and as a result of our efforts, rodents were kept to a minimum. It is fair to say that Kenilworth is not unduly troubled and that we have not encountered any "Warfarin resistant" super rats or mice so far. Levels of infestations in the sewers are on the low side. Treatments on farms, at the tip and at the Council's Sewage Works are regularly carried out and the effect of this work is to keep infestations in the town down.

The level of Atmospheric Pollution is on the low side and readings obtained each month from our own Atmospheric Pollution Station (which is one of the National Survey Sites) show the level of smoke and sulphur dioxide to be one of the lowest in the County). This is encouraging and continuing

efforts must be made by all concerned to keep the level down and if possible to lower it further.

If the co-operation of all householders could be obtained in preventing the burning of garden refuse then I am sure a big improvement would be achieved. This practice and the practice of burning in dustbins which produces foul smelling smoke and other odours caused considerable annoyance to neighbours. Windows have to be kept closed to prevent smoke and smells from entering houses and all in all a most unsatisfactory situation arises.

The discharge of uncombusted matter and other chemicals from motor vehicle exhausts at low level in the centre of the town at busy periods is another matter which gives rise for concern. The level of concentration of these pollutants which people have to breathe must reach dangerous proportions in heavy slow moving traffic. These pollutants can also percolate into food shops through open doors and windows and contaminate food. One wonders what the effect on the motorist is?

The Warwickshire Clean Air Council (of which the town of Kenilworth is a constituent member) are aware of these dangers and strong representations have and are being made to the highest possible authority.

Complaints from noise were small in number and in no case was it found that a Statutory Nuisance existed. Following discussions with ice-cream vendors, noise from "musical chime bells" after 7.0 p.m. at night was reduced and in no case was it necessary to report to you for legal proceedings to be instituted.

All types of complaints were investigated during the year including housing repairs, smells, blocked drains, fumes, excessive noise, the tipping of rubbish, flooded cellars and bonfires. These are but a few of a number of nuisances satisfactorily dealt with.

In conclusion my grateful thanks are due to Dr. D. Livingstone, the Medical Officer of Health, for his helpful advice, guidance and support throughout the year. I should like to thank my two Assistants, Mr. G. L. Horne and Mr. C. Rhodes and the whole of the clerical and work staff for their loyal and conscientious support.

My sincere and grateful thanks and appreciation are extended to the Chairman and Members of the Council for the very many ways that they have supported our work.

I am most grateful to the Clerk of the Council, the Treasurer and the Engineer and Surveyor and to their Deputies and other colleagues and officers of the Council who have been so helpful and obliging on many occasions during the year.

I am, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. WRIGHT,

Chief Public Health Inspector

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Chief Public Health Inspector is the Officer responsible to the Council for these services.

The services continue to operate with a very high standard of efficiency and increased productivity was observed throughout the year. Due to the hard work and efforts of your workmen, a regular weekly collection of refuse was able to be given to all premises in the town.

When the new Eagle Compressload 5 Refuse Collection Vehicle arrives it should help to make the collection service more efficient. This new modern vehicle is faster in operation and its lower loading line will undoubtedly make the collectors' job a little easier.

The work of persuading owners of commercial and factory premises to change over from standard $3\frac{1}{4}$ cubic feet metal dustbins to the large $1\frac{1}{4}$ cubic yard refuse containers on wheels continued throughout the year and as a result a better service was able to be given.

Numbers of dustbins in the town continue to increase and the table below shows this increase since 1964:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number of Bins</i>
1964	7,793
1965	8,352
1966	9,107
1967	9,326
1968	9,770
1969	10,083

The same labour force was again used to cope with this continuing increase in refuse and grateful thanks must again be paid to your Refuse Collection and Disposal Staff for the high standard of work throughout the year.

The Special Collection Service was again well used by the public and 759 requests were received compared to 733 in 1968 and 716 in 1967.

The disposable paper sack system in which householders are given the option of hiring a fully guarded paper sack holder from the Council at 7/6d. per annum commenced in April. The response to this has been quite steady and one hopes that the general public will take more advantage of this quiet, efficient and hygienic method of refuse storage in the future. The total number of sack holders hired out up to the end of the year was 247 and in all cases a clean, 3¼ cubic feet two ply paper sack was given each week to every person hiring out a sack holder. It is hoped that the system can be extended to commercial premises and Council houses during next year.

Refuse disposal proceeded satisfactorily throughout the year and the acquisition of a Case 450 Crawler Tractor in March helped the Tip man to stock pile large quantities of sand for covering material. The use of this larger and more sophisticated machine enabled the work at the tip to be generally improved all round and so prevented nuisances to the houses on the perimeter of the tip.

Pumping of water from the base of the quarry continued and it was pleasing to note that towards the end of the year the pumps were able to be switched off because the sub-soil water had levelled out. Further pumping of water will be necessary when clay has been excavated from other parts of the quarry.

Because of better control methods at the tip and the fact that flies during the year were not too active, there was no cause for complaint. The tip was treated periodically with liquid insecticide and tip dressing powder and the effect of this kept flies and other insects to a minimum.

The six large metal containers provided at the entrance to the Cherry Orchard tip for use of householders in the town who wished to dispose of refuse free of charge were in great demand, particularly at the height of the summer when considerable quantities of garden refuse were disposed of. Such is the demand for a place to dispose of unwanted articles and garden refuse that a further 10 large containers will need to be provided during this next coming year.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

There were 182 registered premises in the town at the end of the year. 34 premises were newly registered and 12 premises were removed from the register. 26 premises received a general inspection and 173 other inspections to registered premises were carried out.

Work under the Act unavoidably fell behind again and slower progress was made because of other pressing duties, however, those premises which received inspections did attain a good standard.

Owners co-operated well with your Departments' Inspectors and in no case was statutory action necessary.

Two accidents were reported and investigated and details of these are given below:—

Case One concerned a Butcher's Assistant who whilst engaged in boning out a piece of meat accidentally lacerated his leg with the boning knife.

Case Two concerned a Butcher's Assistant who accidentally pushed a metal skewer into his hand, whilst stringing meat, causing sever laceration of the hand.

In both cases there was no negligence on the part of the employers and full details of each accident have been sent to the Superintending Inspector of Factories for the Midlands area.

The following tables give details of premises to which the Act applies, the number of persons employed in such premises and action taken during the year;—

APPENDIX I

(para. 1)

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Prescribed particulars to be included in the annual report to the Minister of Labour by local authorities and the London County Council under section 60

TABLE A—REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Period covered 1/1/69 - 31/12/69.

Class of premises (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at end of year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	17	51	10
Retail shops	15	110	10
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	3	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	16	6
Fuel storage depots ...	—	2	—
TOTALS ...	34	182	26

TABLE B—NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS

TO REGISTERED PREMISES = 173

TABLE C—ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	345
Retail shops	521
Wholesale departments, warehouses	34
Catering establishments open to the public	126
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	26
TOTAL	1052
Total Males ...	397
Total Females ...	655

TABLE D—EXEMPTIONS—NIL RETURN

TABLE E—PROSECUTIONS—NIL RETURN

TABLE F—INSPECTORS

No. of inspectors appointed under section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	3
No. of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	—

APPENDIX II

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

This table is enclosed by a request of the Secretary of State for Employment and Productivity to indicate what Medical Officers of Health are required by Section 153(1) of the Factories Act, 1961, to furnish in their Annual Reports with respect to matters under Parts I and VIII of that Act which are administered by the District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1969 FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF KENILWORTH IN THE COUNTY OF WARWICKSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	59	45	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	4	6	—	—
TOTAL ...	68	53	2	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found: If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more “cases”).—**NIL.**

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...					
TOTAL ...	3	3	—	—	—

No out-workers were recorded in the list required by Section 133 (i) (c), Part VIII of the Act.

S1—4—NIL RETURN.

Pest Control.

The service was again very well used by the public. Householders, business people and farmers readily sought the help and advice of the Department in dealing with problems caused by rodents and insects.

Grateful thanks are again due to your General Assistant for the conscientious and efficient way that he has performed all his duties during the year. He is now able to deal with quite a variety of pests and these include rabbits and moles.

The following shows a summary of the work carried out during the year;—

Rodent Control:

Number of properties inspected	...	...	...	528
Total number of visits made for eradication of rats and mice	...	...	...	1,089

Flying and Crawling Insects:

Number of wasps' nests destroyed	...	...	...	137
Number of premises treated for eradication of flies, ants, cockroaches, crickets, silver fish and other insects	...	...	...	92

Regular attention was given to the Council's refuse tip and infestations of rats and flies were speedily dealt with.

Better spraying equipment has been acquired particularly for use against insects and flies at the refuse tip. With this power equipment which is operated with waste gasses from the tractor exhaust, heavy infestations of flies can be destroyed quickly using a quick knock-down insecticide.

Noise Abatement

Six complaints under the Noise Abatement Act, 1960 were reported to the Department during 1969. Every complaint was investigated but in all cases it was found that there was no statutory nuisance. Advice was given by your Inspectors and this tended to improve the position and reduce noise levels.

TABLE I.
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.
SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, 1969.

				Inspections and observations made	Notices served and complied with			
					In-formal	In-formal abated	Formal	Formal abated
GENERAL SANITATION	{	Water Supply		10	—	—	—	—
		Drainage		244	37	37	4	4
		Noise		35	—	—	—	—
		Pet Shops		—	—	—	—	—
		Tents, Vans, Sheds		8	2	2	—	—
		Factories		53	2	2	—	—
		Workplaces		5	—	—	—	—
		Bakehouses		4	—	—	—	—
		Public Conveniences		10	—	—	—	—
		Theatres and Places of Entertainment		5	—	—	—	—
		Licensed Premises		8	—	—	—	—
		Refuse Collection		1149	37	37	—	—
		Refuse Disposal		382	—	—	—	—
		Pest Control		1520	17	17	—	—
		Clean Air		43	12	12	—	—
		Schools		8	—	—	—	—
		Offices, Shops and Railway Premises		199	19	16	—	—
		Miscellaneous Visits		138	—	—	—	—
HOUSING	{	UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:						
		No. of Houses Inspected ..		42	11	9	—	—
		Visits Paid to above Houses ..		57	—	—	—	—
		UNDER HOUSING ACTS:						
		No. of Houses Inspected ..		145	14	10	—	—
		Visits Paid to above Houses ..		182	—	—	—	—
		OVERCROWDING:						
		No. of Houses Inspected ..		3	—	—	—	—
		Visits Paid to above Houses ..		5	—	—	—	—
		FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PREMISES:						
		No. of Houses Inspected ..		3	1	1	—	—
		Visits Paid to above Houses ..		8	—	—	—	—
		Miscellaneous Housing Visits ..		167	—	—	—	—
		Improvement Grants ..		142	—	—	—	—

TABLE I. (continued)

	Inspections and observations made	Notices served and complied with			
		In-formal	In-formal abated	Formal	Formal abated
I.D.	Inquiries in Cases of I.D. ..	10	—	—	—
	Visits re Disinfection ..	—	—	—	—
	Miscellaneous Infectious Disease				
	Visits	27	—	—	—
	Specimens	28	—	—	—
MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION	INSPECTION OF MEAT:				
	Visits to Slaughterhouses ..	1357	5	5	—
	Knackers Yards ..	—	—	—	—
	Shops and Stalls ..	16	—	—	—
	Other Premises ..	10	—	—	—
	VISITS TO:				
	Bakers and Confectioners ..	9	2	2	—
	Butchers	37	4	4	—
	Canteens	2	—	—	—
	Dairies and Milk Distributors	11	—	—	—
	Fishmongers and Poulterers ..	7	1	1	—
	Food Preparing Premises ..	15	3	3	—
	Fried Fish Shops	8	2	2	—
	Grocers	68	11	9	—
	Greengrocers and Fruiterers	26	4	4	—
	Ice Cream Premises	21	3	3	—
	Mobile Shops	9	2	2	—
	Sweets and Tobacco	14	1	1	—
	Restaurants	49	7	6	—
	Chemists	4	—	—	—
	Wholesalers	2	—	—	—
	Schools	6	—	—	—
	Institutions	—	—	—	—
	Clubs	2	—	—	—
	Licensed Premises	8	—	—	—
	VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH SAMPLING OF:				
	Milk	21	—	—	—
	Ice Cream	17	—	—	—
	Food and Drug Samples ..	4	—	—	—
	Other Items	19	—	—	—
	Miscellaneous Food Visits ..	105	—	—	—
TOTALS ..		6387	197	185	4
				4	

Interviews with Owners, Contractors etc. 1011
Quantity of Unsound Food Voluntarily Surrendered 933lbs.

Quantity of Unsound Meat Condemned 15,007lbs.

C. H. WRIGHT,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1969 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Nett		Under 1 Year of age		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1960	14,250	238	16.7	3	12.6	135	9.5
1961	14,490	284	19.6	1	3.5	145	10.0
1962	15,330	259	17.2	3	10.6	161	10.6
1963	16,410	314	19.1	1	3.2	129	7.7
1964	17,480	365	20.9	3	12.2	164	9.4
1965	19,040	352	18.5	3	8.5	128	6.7
1966	19,950	366	18.4	6	16.4	149	7.5
1967	20,450	372	18.2	1	3.0	144	6.8
1968	20,780	325	15.6	5	15.4	157	7.6
1969	21,000	316	15.0	3	9.0	147	7.0

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1969

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth rate, Death rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1969
(Provisional Figures)*

†Annual Rate per 1,000 Population or as stated.

*Rate per 1,000 Total Births.

	†Live Births.	*Still Births per 1,000 Births.	†Deaths.	†Deaths under one year per 1,000 live Births.	*Perinatal Mortality
England and Wales	16.3	13	11.9	18	23

TABLE III.

KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR,
1969.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leptospirosis ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Yellow Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Typhoid ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tetanus ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anthrax ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	5	1	1	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Meningitis ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Infective Jaundice	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	21	1	17	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Other forms of Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Food Poisoning	7	.....	.....	1	5	.....	1	.....	.....
Totals	35	2	18	6	6	—	3	—	—

TABLE IV.
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1969.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					MALES.	FEMALES.
5	Tuberculosis (Respiratory) ...	...	...	...	—	1
4	Enteritis ...	...	...	...	—	1
19 (2)	Cancer—Oesophagus ...	...	...	...	—	1
19 (4)	„ —Intestine ...	...	...	...	—	5
19 (6)	„ —Lung, Bronchus ...	...	...	...	7	—
19 (7)	„ —Breast ...	...	...	...	—	3
19 (8)	„ —Uterus ...	...	...	...	—	4
19 (9)	„ —Prostate ...	...	...	...	1	—
19 (10)	Leukaemia ...	...	...	...	—	1
19 (10)	Cancer—Other ...	...	...	...	7	1
21	Diabetes Mellitus ...	...	...	...	1	—
26	Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	...	...	...	—	1
28	Ischaemic heart disease ...	...	...	...	28	16
29	Other heart diseases ...	...	...	...	1	3
30	Cerebro vascular disease ...	...	...	...	4	10
31	Influenza ...	...	...	...	1	3
32	Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	5	5
33(1)	Bronchitis/Emphysema ...	...	...	...	7	1
33 (2)	Asthma ...	...	...	...	—	2
34	Peptic Ulcer ...	...	...	...	1	—
35	Appendicitis ...	...	...	...	—	1
36	Obstruction or Hernia ...	...	...	...	—	1
39	Hyperplasia—Prostate ...	...	...	...	1	—
38	Nephritis/Nephrosis ...	...	...	...	—	1
40	Congenital Abnormalities ...	...	...	...	1	3
46 (5)	Other circulatory ...	...	...	...	3	7
46 (6)	Other respiratory ...	...	...	...	—	1
46 (7)	Other digestive ...	...	...	...	—	1
46 (8)	Other Genito-urinary ...	...	...	...	1	1
46 (10)	Other musculo/skeletal ...	...	...	...	—	1
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents ...	...	...	...	2	—
BE49	Suicide etc. ...	...	...	...	1	—
All causes ...					72	75

